



488th MP CO FRG Newsletter- August 2012

This has been a very emotional few weeks for everyone involved with the 488th. Both the forward and rear detachments have endured months of training and preparation leading up to this deployment. Now that it has begun, the FRG would like to remind everyone to respect operational security, and think before posting information online and sharing it with friends and family. We are all excited and a little overwhelmed by this journey, and we all want every soldier in our unit to have a safe and successful deployment.

Upcoming Meeting: On August 5, 2012 we will be having a pot luck flat soldier making party! This is an opportunity to get together and not only make your flat soldier, but also get to know the other family members and friends who are also experiencing this deployment. This event will take place in the Waterville Armory beginning at 10 a.m. If you are able to bring a dish to share, please contact us at the email address below so we can know what we still need.

During this time there will also be a meeting of the Parent Support Group. This meeting is open to any parent of a soldier in any unit. Please feel free to join us, as we always welcome new members!

Are you part of the Rear Det? Be assured we have not forgotten about you! Please feel free to also attend meetings and events that are put on by the FRG. We are still one unit. Some things we do may be geared toward deployed families but more importantly we are forming friendships and bonds.

FRG News

On August 14, 2012 from 10-11:00am, and August 16, 2012 from 9-10:00 pm there will be an online training(webinar) put on by Joint Support Services. The title of this training is OPSEC and PERSEC Overview in FRGS. We encourage all FRG members, and those interesting in volunteering or just learning more about OPSEC and PERSEC to log onto www.jointsupportservices.org and sign up for this informative training.

As most of you already know, our soldiers in the forward detachment are in Fort Bliss Texas for a period of training prior to leaving the country. If you would like to write to them or send packages, you can use the address below:

Soldiers rank and Name

Fort Bliss Mobilization and Deployment Brigade

488th MP. Co.

Building 2453

Fort Bliss, TX 79916

The Red Sox Foundation and Massachusetts General Hospital Home Base Program and our friends at the Portland Sea Dogs in Maine would like to invite you to a Baseball Game and BBQ on Sunday, August 19. Join us for this FREE activity, which will be the last event in our summer Adventure Series. The Adventure Series is a program designed to support military family relationships during and after deployments. The game will begin at 1 PM, with the BBQ running from 12 noon - 2 PM. All Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans, Service Members, and Military Families are welcome to attend this event. Please RSVP by August 3. Go to www.bit.ly/seadogstix to request your tickets. Space is limited to 100 people, with preference to Maine Military. We will notify you via email the week of August 6 as to whether you will receive free tickets to the event.

Fundraising: We now have available 488th MP Co. support ribbon magnets that read "proud parent", "I (heart) my soldier and some just saying supporting the 488th MP Co**** Both are \$5.00, and are available in the FRG office during drill weekends, or by contacting the FRG using the information below. As always we have Guardians T-shirts and sweatshirts available in the FRG office for sale, as well as travel mugs and car decals for only \$5!

******If you have experienced any issues with these magnets please let us know. Thank you.**

488th Family Readiness Group

Upcoming Meetings And

Events for Fiscal Year 2012

(subject to change)

August 5th

FRG Meeting 10 am

Flat Daddy/Pins – Other Crafts for Adults/Kids

POT LUCK!

September 16th

FRG Meeting 10 am

Rules on what to send in Care Packages – Tracy Richard

Craft to put into a Care Package

October 7th

(Tentative)

FRG Meeting 10 am

Christmas Pictures – Done by Erin Whittaker

Pumpkin Painting/Halloween Games

November 4th

(Tentative)

FRG Meeting 10 am

Holiday Shopping Extravaganza with different vendors

December

Unit Christmas Party

Important Websites and Phone Numbers:

Maine Army National Guard Family Assistance Center: <http://www.me.ngb.army.mil/family/> 1-888-365-9287

Guard Family Portal: <http://www.jointservicessupport.org>

FRG Volunteers Contact Information:

FRG Email: 488thmpfrginfo@gmail.com

Amanda P.-FRG Leader/Alexis S.-Co-Leader/Sharon R.-Treasurer /Tracy R.-Communication Chairperson

Beth T.-Fundraising Coordinator/Jessica Frank-Secretary